Ponchatoula
Hammond
CAR & TRUCK WRECK
INJURY ATTORNEYS
Parker Layrisson • 985-467-9525 • Layrisson.com

The Tangi Times

824 NEWS • SPORTS • POLITICS • COMMUNITY • INTELLECT 874

JULY 2, 2025 44th YEAR NUMBER 60 $1.00

Gone Too Soon: the Tragic Tale of Spoiled Food

By STEFANIE BROOKE • Tangi Times Community Journalist

We've all been there. You reach into the fridge for that avocado you swore you'd use "tomorrow," only to find it's now a sad, mushy, brown blob. Or maybe it's that bunch of bananas you bought with the best intentions, now spotted and sulking on the counter like they've given up on life.

Food waste is a real tragedy, especially here in Louisiana where we like our groceries fresh, our meals hearty, and our gumbo ingredients not fuzzy. Luckily, with a few clever storage tricks, you can keep your favorite perishables from going south faster than a snowbird in July.

Let's talk about a few of the usual suspects and how to keep them fresher, longer.

First up: berries. Strawberries, blueberries, and raspberries are as fragile as a praline on a summer dashboard.

The trick to keeping them perky? Give them a quick rinse in a vinegar bath (1 part white vinegar to 3 parts water), then dry thoroughly and store in a paper towel-lined container with the lid cracked slightly. This helps keep mold at bay, which, let's be honest, is the real villain in the berry story.

Next: fresh herbs. Cilantro and parsley are notorious for going limp faster than your willpower at a crawfish boil.

Trim the stems, place them in a jar of water like a bouquet, and loosely cover the tops with a plastic bag. Store in the fridge and change the water every few days.

Basil, however, is a diva and prefers room temperature – same setup, just leave it out of the fridge and out of direct sunlight.

Now let's talk about avocados, those green enigmas that are hard as a rock at noon and past their prime by dinner. If you've only used half, leave the pit in, brush the exposed side with lemon or lime juice, and wrap it tightly with plastic wrap before refrigerating.

Or better yet, mash it into guacamole and share it before it has a chance to turn. No one in Louisiana will say no to that offer.

And then there's lettuce. Sweet, innocent lettuce. You buy it full of promise, dreaming of crisp salads and sandwich crunch. But just days later, it's a wilted mess of slime and regret.

To save your greens, first make sure they're completely dry before storing. Wrap them in a clean paper towel and place

See SPOILED, Page 9

Homemade and Handy

By STEFANIE BROOKE • Tangi Times Community Journalist

Between grocery prices climbing higher than your neighbor's new fence and everyday essentials eating away at your paycheck, it's starting to feel like just keeping the house clean should earn you side-hustle income. But good news: some of those spendy items you toss into your shopping cart without blinking? You could be making them yourself for way less money, way more fun, and with a surprising amount of bragging rights.

Take cleaning supplies, for instance. If you're paying top dollar for fancy all-purpose sprays that smell like an herb garden and a lemon grove had a very clean baby, you're not alone. But making your own cleaner is so easy, you might feel a little sheepish about all the dollars you've left behind in the Target

cleaning aisle.

A simple homemade version? Mix one part distilled white vinegar with one part water, toss in a few drops of your favorite essential oil (hello, lavender or peppermint dreams), and pour it into a spray bottle. Give it a shake, spritz away, and boom – you're practically a pioneer, minus the covered wagon.

Another heavy hitter that can lighten your wallet is personal care items, like fancy sugar scrubs. Those tiny jars with the pretty labels can easily set you back $20 or more, but you can whip up your own version in about five minutes – no art degree required.

Grab a cup of white or brown sugar, half a cup of coconut oil, and a few drops of vanilla extract or essential oil. Mix it all up, store it in a cute jar, and slather it on when you need a little at-home spa moment. Your skin (and your budget) will thank you.

Other easy DIY swaps include laundry detergent, fabric softener, face masks, and even deodorant if you're feeling adventurous. Not only can you save serious cash, but you also get the warm, fuzzy satisfaction of knowing exactly what's in your products – no weird chemical names you can't pronounce.

See HANDY, Page 9

July is National Grilling Month

The Tangi Times

Strawberry Manor
TANGIPAHOA'S PREMIER EVENT VENUE

Mention this Tangi Times ad and receive 50% off per hour for corporate events
($100 per hour if fewer than 75 guests)
Monday - Thursday 8am-5pm
985.391.8000 | WEDDINGS • PARTIES • CORPORATE EVENTS | strawberrymanorevents.com

What's inside this issue?

Dubious News

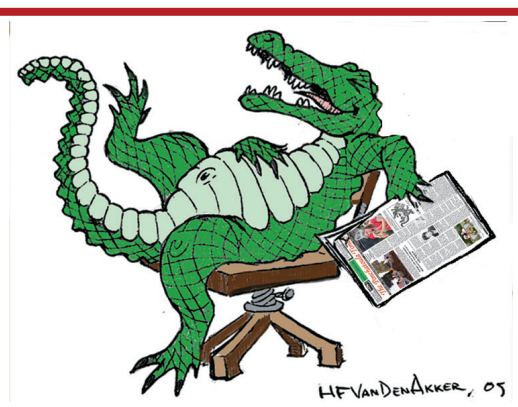
WHAT'S HAPPENING!! in Tangi

TALK of the TOWN
What do YOU think?

and much more!

One Dollar

985-467-0096 Subscribe at www.tangitimes.com publisher@tangitimes.com



By OLE HARDHIDE
The Alligator

Cheers to all my lovely and patriotic Swampies! You know that your favorite gator narrator loves – more than anything else – FREEDOM! We live a grand old life down here in this fabulous swamp we call home, don't we? Our freedom comes from our independence as a nation, which was obtained through bravery and fighting – lots of fighting – by our forefathers, who wanted us to have everything that they didn't have before they signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

Since Old Hardhide is a resourceful gator, I asked AI to help me out with a short history of the day we celebrate this week – the 4th of July:

The 4th of July, also known as Independence Day, marks the birth of the United States as a free and independent nation. On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, asserting the American colonies' right to separate from British rule. This bold act was grounded in the belief that all people are created equal and are entitled to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

More than just a historical milestone, the 4th of July is a celebration of the enduring values that define America – freedom, democracy, and self-governance. It reminds us that our nation was founded on the idea that power belongs to the people, and that government exists to protect their rights – not to grant them.

The freedoms we enjoy today – speech, religion, press, assembly, and more – stem from this foundational belief. They allow us to express our ideas, choose our leaders, practice our faith, and seek justice. These rights have not always been equally accessible to all Americans, and the ongoing pursuit of liberty and equality continues to shape our national story.

Independence Day is a time to reflect on the courage of those who fought for freedom, honor the progress we've made, and recommit to the work still ahead. As fireworks light the sky and communities gather in celebration, we are reminded that the promise of freedom is both a gift and a responsibility that belongs to every generation.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Wesley Daniels
City of Ponchatoula

As Mayor of Ponchatoula, I'm proud to invite our community to join together in celebration of Independence Day with several events planned throughout the city on July 4. We'll begin the morning with a meaningful tradition hosted by the Ponchatoula Minute Men – the Annual Flag Raising Ceremony at 8:00am. This will take place at the Big Flag in town, and I encourage all residents to come out and honor our nation with this powerful display of unity and patriotism. It's a moment that reflects the pride we have in our community and our country.

Later in the day, residents can look forward to a festive evening at the PARD fireworks show. Gates will open at 5:00pm, and I encourage everyone to bring a chair and enjoy the show with friends and neighbors. City Hall will be closed in observance of the holiday, allowing staff and citizens alike to fully enjoy the celebration. Let's come together to commemorate our freedom and make lasting memories this July 4 in Ponchatoula!

"I love our city, and I love its people."
-Wesley Daniels

The Tangi Times

WHAT'S HAPPENING!! in Tangi

Friday July 4
8:00am
Ponchatoula Flag Raising
The Minutemen of Ponchatoula
Downtown Ponchatoula

Friday July 4
8:00am
American Legion Post 47 Flag Raising
Ponchatoula Cemetery

Friday July 4
9:00am
Hammond Flag Raising
Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunrise Rotary
Hammond Square Mall at RR and I-12

Friday July 4
6 pm
Light Up the Sky for the 4th of July
Zemurray Park
400 S. Oak St., Hammond

Friday July 4
5 pm
PARD 1 Fireworks Show
PARD
19030 Ponchatoula Park Dr., Ponchatoula

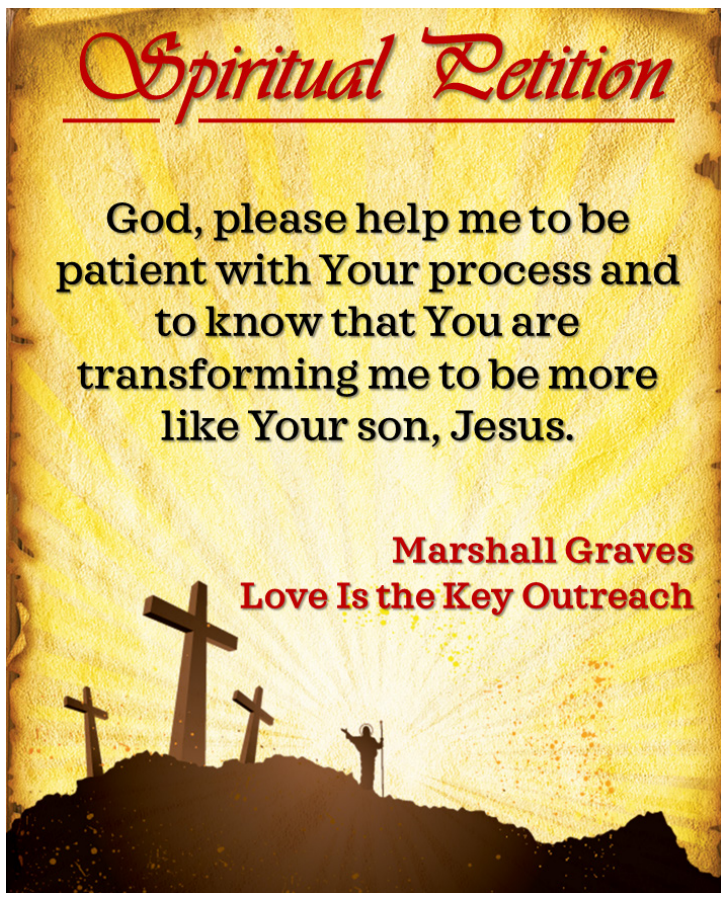
Friday July 4
11 am – 8 pm
Bring Your Own Pool Party
Gnarly Barley Brewing
1709 Corbin Rd., Hammond

Tuesday July 8
1 pm
Twin Steeples Art Camp Verse & Vision: Art in Every Line
Twin Steeples Creative Arts Center
220 E Oak St., Ponchatoula

Wednesday July 9
5:30-6:30 pm
TPSO Gun Safety Presentation
PARD
19030 Ponchatoula Park Dr., Ponchatoula

MEMES are good medicine!

Am I the only one who packs underwear for a weekend trip like I plan to soil myself three times every day that I'm away from home?


Spiritual Petition
God, please help me to be patient with Your process and to know that You are transforming me to be more like Your son, Jesus.
Marshall Graves
Love Is the Key Outreach

Need Affordable Health Coverage?
Discover your options!
Louisiana Senior Advisors
o: 985-370-9167 c: 225-715-3894
174 S. 6th St, Ponchatoula

Tonya Aiken

FOLLOW THE TANGI TIMES ON X
x.com/TangiTimes

SOUTHERN FRAMERS of LA LLC
CONCRETE, FRAMING & SIDING
WILL KING
Owner
o: 985-386-4354 Ponchatoula, LA
c: 704-200-1449 will@southernframersofla.com
southernframersofla.com

Dubious News

Hello, friends, I hope you're doing well,
But I have a sad but true story to tell.
In Tinsukia town, India, where the streetlights gleam,
Lived a little rat with a curious dream.
Not cheese, not berries, nor grain from a sack–
He longed for a snack with a crispy crack.
He invaded an ATM, no partner, no scam.
Through cables he scurried, facing a tight cram.
He found stacks of dough, so crispy and neat,
Not cheese or a cracker, but still quite a treat!
He nibbled on notes and devoured the stash,
By the time he was done, he ate $19,000 in cash.
The bankers were baffled, "Where's all the dough?"
They opened the box... and gasped at the show.
Shreds of rupees, like paper confetti,
And one little mouse who had eaten too many.
So heed this small tale of mischief and fate,
Don't store your cash where a mouse can migrate.
So now the bank owes a fortune in dues,
And yes ... this story is true.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Article 7, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B) that a public hearing of Town of Amite City in Tangipahoa Parish will be held at its regular meeting place at City Hall located at 212 East Oak Street Amite, Louisiana, on Tuesday August 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to consider levying additional or increased millage rates without further voter approval or adopting the adjusted millage rates after reassessment and rolling forward to rates not to exceed the prior year's maximum. The estimated amount of tax revenues to be collected in the next year for general Alimony (5206001) from the increased millage is $160,471 and the amount of increase in taxes attributable to the millage increase is $6,495.

Publish June 27 & July 2, 2025

Cost of notice: $47.25

TANGI GUMBO

A little bit of everything you need to know

On June 21, the Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office (TPSO) assisted Ponchatoula Police in apprehending a woman accused of shoplifting over $1,200 in tools and equipment during the grand opening of the new Tractor Supply store on I-55 Service Road. Theresa Prine, 35, was issued a summons for Felony Theft after allegedly attempting to flee with a loaded cart of unpaid merchandise. TPSO's Mounted Division, present at the event for security, quickly pursued and detained Prine until Ponchatoula Police arrived. Sheriff Gerald Sticker highlighted the division's crime-fighting capabilities, noting their role goes beyond community engagement to active law enforcement support.

The City of Hammond has announced that W Minnesota Park Rd. will be closed to through traffic for several months as crews rebuild the roadway from S.W. Railroad Ave to S. Magnolia St., with a tentative completion date set for November 13, 2025. Businesses along the route will remain accessible from either end or via S.W. Railroad Ave and S. Magnolia St., depending on the construction phase. Phase One closes the road in front of Dairy Queen with access from both ends; Phase Two will block the section from S.W. Railroad Ave to Dairy Queen, allowing access from S. Magnolia St.; and Phase Three will close the portion from S. Magnolia St. to Dairy Queen, with access from S.W. Railroad Ave.

Southeastern Louisiana University graduate student and animator Thomas Nealsson of Hammond recently won a Student Emmy Production Award for Animation, Graphics, and Special Effects from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Suncoast Chapter with his animated series trailer "Legends From Another Earth." Nealsson's award was announced at the Suncoast Chapter Student Production Awards held at the University of Miami and was the only winner selected within his category. His animated short film is part of a larger project that began as an undergraduate assignment. Nealsson's honor marks the fifth consecutive Student Production Award for content produced by Southeastern students. "Legends From Another Earth" was also a prizewinner at Southeastern's inaugural 2024 "Take Your Shot" Film Festival held last April and sponsored by the Southeastern Channel. Since 2005, Southeastern students have claimed over twelve Emmy® honors within the annual Suncoast Competition.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

The Florida Parishes Arena in Amite has received a grant from Keep Louisiana Beautiful to add five new trash receptacles around that campus. The KLB Trash Receptacle Grant helps communities throughout the state by providing high-quality trash containers for placement in outdoor public spaces. Data collected by KLB over the past several years shows a 78 percent reduction in litter in areas where trash cans are properly installed, serviced, and maintained. Tangipahoa Parish is grateful for its longstanding partnership with this incredible organization, and we thank Keep Louisiana Beautiful for helping us make Tangipahoa shine!

This month, the Florida Parishes Arena proudly added two names to its Wall of Fame. #TeamTangi was honored to help celebrate this year's Wall of Fame recipients, Chuck Ingraffia and Kelly Wells, who were recognized during the Tangipahoa Pro Rodeo & Music Fest. A lifelong Loranger resident, Ingraffia holds two Louisiana High School Rodeo State Championships (1980, 1981) and participated in the National High School Finals rodeo competition before securing his PRCA pro card. He has competed in rodeos throughout the United States and Canada before returning home to become a full-time cattle farmer here in Tangipahoa Parish. Wells is also a lifelong resident of Tangipahoa, who recently retired after a 20-year career as the first director of the Florida Parishes Arena in Amite. Wells is active in several organizations across our community, including the Tangipahoa Parish Fair, the SLU Alumni Association, the Lions Athletic Association, Leadership Tangipahoa, and the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival Board. We congratulate both of these well-deserving honorees on their selection to the Arena Wall of Fame.

Drugs, weapons, and various other types of contraband have been uncovered in a multi-agency shakedown effort at the Tangipahoa Parish Jail that is expected to lead to multiple arrests. On Tuesday morning, June 24, more than 100 law enforcement personnel from TPSO, Rayburn Correctional Center, and the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office conducted a full-scale search of the entire facility. The operation turned up drugs, makeshift weapons, and other prohibited items like cellphones. The jail sweep had been in planning for several weeks, as

(See TANGI GUMBO Page 4)

These fine retailers bring
~The Tangi Times~
to the community. Visit them today!

5/25
Albany
Circle A Hardware
Huckleberry's
Albany Express

Amite
Drive-In Drug Store
Thrift-Town HealthMart
Gabriel Building Supply
Master Chef

2/25
Bedico
Bedico Supermarket

Greensburg
Buddy's Seafood/Deli
Greensburg Family Pharmacy
Main Street Market/Deli
The Hawk's Nesting Café
Lucky Dollar Casino
A Country Store
Last Stop Money Mart

9/24
Hammond
Jeanie's - It's All Good
Doughlicious Donuts
University Donuts
CVS Hammond
Pull Clip Café
Scott's Pharmacy
Don Chaucer's Pharmacy
Bayou Booksellers
Hammond Express
Miller's Mart
Stuffed
Red White & Brew

6/24
Independence
The Man Shack
Hilltop Market & Deli
Minute Man Convenience
La Potosina

3/24
Kentwood
Kentwood Pharmacy
Kentwood City Hall
The Café
Schilling's Pharmacy
Kentwood Co-op
Pizza Shack
B & D Salvage Grocery

12/23
Loranger
Gene's Greenhouses
Loranger Supermarket
Family Healthcare
Grace Filled Donuts

Montpelier
Bear Creek Western Store
Miller's Grocery
Natalbany Creek Campground

Pine Grove
Pine Grove Auto Parts

Ponchatoula
Bohning's
Gabriel Building Supply
CVS Ponchatoula
B2 Antiques
Moss & Berry
Ponchatoula Family Pharmacy
Specialty RX Pharmacy

Robert
Robert Supermarket
Robert Pharmacy

Roseland
Sky's Pantry

Springfield
Landry-Poché Farm
Childers Grocery
P'Maw's Bait Shop

Tangipahoa
TG Mini Mart

Tickfaw
Alissa's Beauty Salon

Watch the growth of this Tangi Times retailer list!

The Tangi Times Talk of the Town!

What is something tangible that there is no such thing as "too much (or too many) of?"

Allicie Briggs
Mount Hermon

Cash!

Ann Cooper-Tate
Ponchatoula

Swim days.

Carlene Melton
Ponchatoula

Boiled crawfish!

Katherine Loyacano
Hammond

BOOKS!

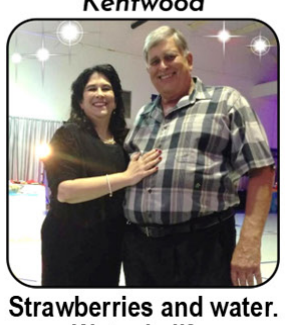
Kim Spitale
Amite

Books, money, pens, and insulated cups.

Leslie McKnight
Hammond

SHOES!
Oh, and also, closet space for more shoes.

Regina Martin
Kentwood



Strawberries and water. Water is life.

Sue Huber
Kentwood

Bacon, bacon, and more bacon!

YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

Brett Duncan Edwin Bergeron Jr
Nicky Muscarello Lisa Amar
Jonathan Poche Kitty Morrison
George Merwin Cosimo Martello
Elijah Whitney Vint Thibodeaux
Tim Saylor Colin Hay Hal Lindes
Johnny Colla Deborah Harry
Laura Branigan John Waite

Would you like to wish someone a happy birthday in The Tangi Times? Just send the name of the birthday boy or girl along with the special date to publisher@tangitimes.com.

VOTED READERS' CHOICE TANGI lifestyles best 2023 2022
Visit us and see why we were voted
Best Title Company
and
Best Notary Service!
Toula Title
175 W. Hickory St.
Ponchatoula, LA 70454
985-467-1281
Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00
Toula Title
AUTO TITLE • NOTARY

American Legion Post 47 News

To All Concerned,

Our regular monthly meeting on Thursday, July 3, will be held AT THE POST HALL at 1800 hrs. (6:00pm). Please arrive at the Hall about 30 minutes early, as there will be treats donated by Ponchatoula Chamber of Commerce President Brandon Phares, Boys State Chair and owner of Sherman's Glass in Ponchatoula.

From this meeting forward (unless otherwise specified) we will begin meeting again at the Post Hall main ballroom. This will be the first monthly meeting of the 2025/26 fiscal year and will be Installation of the recently elected Post Officers. Hopefully, Judge Jimmy Kuhn will do perform the installation ceremony.

On Friday, July 4, we will change the time for raising Old Glory in the cemetery to 0900 hrs. (9AM). The reason for changing the time is because the Minutemen of Ponchatoula are raising the large city flag at 0800 hrs, and the city has requested that our Legion be present for this occasion along with our scout troop in uniform.

All are invited to help our Post and scouts to raise flags at 9am. Flag retreat at the cemetery will be held at 1700 hrs. (5pm).

We are looking forward to this holiday weekend and for everyone's participation.

For God and Country,

Jack Catalinotto

Commander

Hammond Airshow Returns in October

Honoring decades of Louisiana aviation excellence, the Hammond Northshore Regional Airshow returns October 11–12, 2025, with the theme "Bayou Skies: Honoring Louisiana's Aviation Legacy." This highly anticipated event at the Hammond Northshore Regional Airport will pay tribute to the pilots, engineers, and aviation enthusiasts who have shaped the region's aerospace history, offering a powerful celebration of flight, heritage, and community pride.

Drawing thousands of spectators every other year, the airshow is known for its breathtaking aerial performances, military and vintage aircraft flyovers, and engaging ground displays that appeal to aviation lovers of all ages. Visitors can expect a packed schedule featuring high-energy demonstrations, family-friendly fun, and hands-on experiences designed to ignite curiosity – especially in younger attendees.

The popular Kids Zone will offer STEM-based activities and interactive exhibits, providing educational and exciting opportunities for children to explore the world of aviation. With entertainment, concessions, and community spirit taking center stage, the 2025 show aims not only to thrill but also to inspire the next generation of aviators.

Ticket sales launch in August, with members of the Insider's Club receiving early access, exclusive updates, and behind-the-scenes content. To join the club, sign up to volunteer, or explore more details, visit www.hammondairshow.com, and follow "HammondLAAirshow" on Facebook and @HNRAirshow on Instagram and X for updates.

We need You!
Help Louisiana
VOTE
BECOME AN ELECTION POLL COMMISSIONER!
AND GET PAID $200 A DAY!
TRAINING CLASSES:
AUGUST 19 - 5:00 PM
North Oaks Diagnostic Center - Hammond
AUGUST 20 - 5:00 PM
Florida Parishes Arena - Amite
TO REGISTER: ELECTIONS@TANGICLERK.ORG OR 985-748-4146

Obituaries

Todd Michael DiGeorge; 64; Ponchatoula; June 23; survived by his devoted wife, Vanessa; children, Britni (Scott), Brandi, and Todd II; siblings, Mark (Barbara) and Beth; grandchildren, Lucie and Annie; and many beloved nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Ernest Milton Wilkinson, Jr.; 82; Independence; June 23; survived by his wife, Catherine "Cathy" Wilkinson; children, Angela Kirtland (Kenneth), Ernest Wilkinson III, Jowanda Gordon (Oscar), and Larry Anthony, Jr. (Sara); nine grandchildren; twelve great-grandchildren; brother, Edward; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and other family members.

Stephanie Rene' "Nay Nay" Fletcher; 60; Maurepas; June 24; survived by Dalvin Gullo; her sons, Jerry Rhodus (Melissa), Loyd Rhodus (Jaime), and Bret White; grandchildren, Landon, Evan, Britton, Colton, and Berkley; sister, Michelle Dean (Curtis); sister-in-law, Lana (Tim); nephew, Garrin; uncle, Roy Smith; aunt, Francis; great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces.

Christman "Harry" Arnold III; 80; Kentwood; June 25; survived by his wife, Sandra Simpson Arnold; daughter, Becky Arnold Smith (George), grandsons, George Smith II, Christian Smith (Taylor), Hunter Smith (Sierra), and Tyler Smith; three great-granddaughters, Kenleigh, Kylie, and Ava; sister, Shirley Winstead; and nephew, Christopher Arnold (Jena).

Catherine Genco Gioia; 87; Amite native; June 25; survived by her daughters, Caprice (Brian) and Cara (Trey); grandchildren, Brady, Bryce, Emily, Dominik, Trey, Aislynn, and Haley; cousins, Loretta Guilino and Virginia Dunn; and several nieces and nephews.

Barbara Bowman Swede; 91; Hammond; June 25; survived by her son, Ron Swede (Wanda); daughter, Pam Danley (Ed); grandchildren, Philip, Rebekah (Seth), Blake (Elizabeth), Eric (Sierra), and Philip (Hannah); great-grandchildren, Mallory, Madison, Blake Jr., and Stevie; and longtime friends, Ruth Babcock and Peggy Woods.

Mary Elizabeth Joseph DeLoach; 74; Ponchatoula; June 26; survived by her brother, Michael Joseph; sister-in-law, Sheryl Joseph; three great-nephews; two great-nieces; step-daughter, Nicole Pate (Dale); sisters-in-law, Mary (Juan) and Suzanne (Billy); granddaughters, Kimberlea (Derek), Amber, and Erin (Tim); great-granddaughter, Kennedy; and numerous nieces and nephews.

David Ashley Carroll; 67; Amite; June 26; survived by his sisters, Tommie White, Velda Carroll, Patricia Watson, Kathy Smith, and Beth Henry; brother, Keith Neal (Theresa); and several nieces and nephews.

Bertha "Betty" Olivia Warner Ladner; 89; Ponchatoula; June 26; survived by her children, Marlene Sharpe (Dale), Gerry Meyers (Edith), Carolyn Cooper (Charles), Gayle Bond (Greg), Connie Byers (Randy), and Larry Meyers; and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, family members, and friends.

George Peter Alexander; 81; Hammond; June 27; survived by his wife, Bernice Latapie Alexander; children, Brant Alexander and Taryn Alexander Kirk; grandchildren, Grace and Paige Alexander; twin sister, Georgie Anna Nunez; and many nieces, nephews, family members, and friends.

Virginia "Ginger" Edwards Landry; 77; Amite; June 27; survived by her husband, Robert "Bob" Landry Jr.; daughter, Debbie Durbin (John); son, Robert "Trea" Landry III (Amber); grandchildren, Robert "Alex" Landry IV and Adley Landry; sister, Susan Robin (Clayton); and sister-in-law, Marie Edwards.

Elaine Bates Mulkey Notariano; 78; Ponchatoula; June 27; survived by her husband, Anthony Notariano; daughters, Debbie Daniels (Jeff), Kim McCullen (Doug), Melissa Milton (Jeremy), and Donna DiMattia (Angelo); sons, Wayne Culbreath (Lisa), Billy Mulkey (Theresa); and Lonnie Mulkey (Deanna); sister, Joyce; twelve grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Glenn Thomas LeBlanc; 80; Ponchatoula; June 28; survived by his son, Braville J. LeBlanc (LouAnn); daughter, Dawn Brooks (Tarvin "Boo"); grandchildren, Brittany (Josh), Joshua (Landon), Garrett (Rachael), Savannah (Breanna), and Tyler (Cali); great-grandchildren, Gaige, Brodie, Eli, Dax, Paisleigh, Tre', and Wyatt; and his beloved dancing partner and girlfriend, Gladys.

Bobby Gene Craig Jr.; 79; Tickfaw; June 29; survived by his wife, Brenda Craig; son, Eric Craig (Susan); granddaughters, Krista Craig (Fiancé, Loren) and Makayla and Richard Bastian; Brother, Joe Craig (Kathy); sister, Belinda C. Johnson; sister-in-law, Gloria Beall; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Judith Ann "Judy" Sherman; 86; Ponchatoula; June 29; survived by her sisters, Mary Sherman (Doyle) and Karen Bates (Donald); brother, Dr. C. Kenneth Sherman (Barbara); sister-in-law, Ursula Sherman; brother-in-law, Calvin Neihaus; and many nieces and nephews.

TANGI GUMBO

From Page 3

it is part of TPSO's new operational standards for the jail under Sheriff Gerald Sticker. Investigations into the introduction of the contraband located in this effort are underway. They are expected to result in additional charges for involved inmates as well as any non-inmates identified as having played a part in the facilitation or distribution of the contraband. The TPSO would like to express our sincere gratitude to the law enforcement partners who assisted with this effort for their dedication and diligence through the operation.

Cody Schexnaydre, of Ponchatoula, LA, was named to the Mississippi State University's Spring 2025 President's List.

Paige Davis of Ponchatoula has been named to the University of West Alabama's Spring 2025 President's List for superior academic achievement.

Last week, the Amite City Police Department responded to a reported theft at Walmart on W. Oak Street and quickly apprehended the suspect, identified as 50-year-old Trace Bell of Roseland, LA. Bell attempted to flee the scene westbound on a bicycle but collided with a patrol vehicle's door near the I-55 overpass and continued on foot before being taken into custody. He faces multiple charges, including theft, aggravated flight from an officer, simple criminal damage to property, and being a fugitive for failing to register as a sex offender. Police thanked the Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Department for their assistance.

The Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office is asking for the public's assistance locating a Ponchatoula man who hasn't been seen or heard from since last weekend. James Wood, 43, was last seen at the La 22 Mart on the corner of Highway 22 and Lee's Landing in Ponchatoula on Saturday, June 21. His car, keys, and other belongings have been found at his home in the 40000 block of River Road in Ponchatoula, where he lives alone, but no one has seen or heard from him all week. James is 5'8", weighing 148 lbs, and has brown hair and green eyes. Sheriff Gerald Sticker asks anyone with information regarding James' whereabouts to contact our Investigations Division at 985-902-2045.

First United Methodist Church Welcomes You

Life in America today looks very different from 1985, when Ronald Reagan was president, "Back to the Future" lit up theaters, and most phones were still attached to walls. We've gone from mixtapes to streaming, from handwritten notes to instant messages, and from Cold War fears to digital dilemmas. Yet through all the change, one thing remains steady: the human need for hope, truth, and community – needs we strive to meet here, together in faith. Welcome to our Church, First United Methodist Church.

Our church has a long history of worship, fellowship and service in this community. We started as a small church in downtown Hammond in 1899, and in 1985, we built a brand new church just behind Ross Downing Chevrolet on Rue Denise.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of our life in this neighborhood. Over the years, we have been involved in missionary work in Mexico and supporting SLU Wesley Foundation.

A local mission that got its start with FUMC is the Laurent Project. This project helped hundreds of families restore their lives after the 2016 floods by handing out building supplies, furniture, and household supplies that had been donated by companies across the country.

The Center of Hope Retail Store is a mission that is an extension of the Laurent Project and continues the work of helping those in our community who are in need. Wing And A Prayer theater group was another community outreach program that this church supported.

Our youth group is a very active part of our church life. They meet weekly for fellowship and decide what their upcoming activities will be.

Our youth can be seen helping church members with yard work in the spring, participating in Weekend of the Cross, a community outreach of youth across the state helping elderly people with home repairs and building wheelchair ramps in the summer, and going to shut-ins and nursing homes, singing Christmas carols in the winter.

These are just a few of the things our youth are involved in. These young people are the future of our church and their participation in church life is treasured.

The ladies of our church are the backbone of ministering to our congregation. They serve our homebound members and provide meals after funeral services.

Our ladies support overseas missions as well as our own Methodist Children's Home in Robert, LA. If there is a need in our church we can depend on the ladies to step up and fill it.

The men's group is being revitalized and is becoming more active. We are looking forward to all that they will bring to our church.

We have had our ups and downs, as many churches do, but through it all, we have thrived. As we celebrate this time in our history, we know that we aren't celebrating just a building. It is the people that have come and gone through its doors that have made it the wonderful place that it is, and we couldn't be the "church" that we are without every single one of them.

First United Methodist Church has continued to grow over the past 40 years at this location. We invite anyone who would like to be a part of our Anniversary to join us on Sunday, July 13, at 10am for a Celebration Service at 2200 Rue Denise. Lunch will be provided afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.

Our regular Sunday Services are:

9:00 - Contemporary Service

10:00 - Sunday School, Adults and Children

11:00 - Traditional Service

We can be reached at:

umc@fumc-hamond.org

http://fumc-hammond.org

985-345-2196

See us on Facebook at FUMC Hammond

Stuffed!

1801 Nashville Ave, Hammond, LA
Tues-Sat, 11:00am-9:00pm
Overall rating: 4/5 stars – very good

They say that some things just write themselves. This Unknown Eater seems to think that can be said about a certain eatery that we have visited several times over the past few months in the Hammond area – Stuffed. For over a year, the aptly-named, family-owned restaurant specializes in poboys and potatoes with a wide variety of toppings or stuffings.

Let's get started with the most basic thing – the location. Stuffed is just off West University at 1801 Nashville, practically within walking distance of Southeastern (that being said, a full belly might make it tough for the stroll back).

There is plenty of parking in front of and on the side of the place. Just as a side note, the location was once a night club, so the building has no windows and has no natural lighting and there is little memorabilia on the wall – but that is to be expected from a relatively new business.

In today's world, if people have not eaten at a place, some rely on the internet to do their research. At the first glance of stuffed.com, the prices of the poboys look like what you would pay at many other locations in the area.

That being said, when taking a gander at the spuds, one might be taken aback by the pricing. When reading that the Classic Baked Potato will run $9.99, some might feel a sudden tingle in the wallet – but not when they see the size. The potatoes are not like the kind at the drive-thru at a national fast food chain or a side at a steakhouse; these are meant to be full meals, and they are well worth the price.

On my first trip, I tried the Chicken Philly Poboy that was served with a size of fries. I asked to deviate from the menu (I prefer the onions and peppers to be raw), and it was done with no problems and without extra cost.

It came to me with more meat than expected and is something that I would certainly recommend and even order again. Other sandwiches include a wide array of seafood and specialty poboys.

The second trip was the time to try a potato; and like the poboy, I tried the BIG Philly, which lived up to its name.

When it first came to the table, the thought was that my eyes may have been bigger than my stomach. Something the size of a small Nerf football that smelled a whole lot better was sitting in front of me.

At first, I thought to myself that there was no way that I would finish it – and then I dug in. My next notion was that if I didn't have room for it, I was willing to make room somehow. They were able to capture the flavor of a Philly Cheesesteak with the added comfort-food feel of a buttered spud.

It took some doing, but this guy was able to finish it all.

One piece of criteria as an Unknown Eater is that we visit three times before writing a review, since a single visit may be an unfair experience on a good day or a bad day; so after spotting the Mac Daddy on the list of taters on the second trip, it was time to give that one a go.

This tater features pork, macaroni, and their "signature cheese sauce." It was a little tougher to finish than the Philly – not because of the quality of the food, but because of the quantity.

The mac and cheese coupled with the pork would almost be enough for a meal by itself. I will say that I was ashamed to do it, but this gravitationally challenged guy had to ask for a roadie box.

Three visits were enough to form an opinion, but hunger warranted a fourth. I entered thinking that I was going to try another poboy, but out of curiosity, figured that I should try the most basic thing: the Classic Baked Potato, which comes surrounded by butter and topped with the signature cheese sauce, bacon, green onions and sour cream.

All that was needed was to sprinkle a little salt, and it was a proper meal. Like the other two, I would recommend them, and I plan on having them again.

If I had to choose, the BIG Philly is my favorite of the three. Like the poboys, the spuds are available in a variety of ways, including seafood and different choices of meats.

As far as drinks are concerned, they serve Coca-Cola brands from the fountain and in the bottle.

Thinking back on the service, the waitstaff came across as friendly and welcoming. Stuffed offers dine-in, carryout, and third-party deliveries. If you are hungry, Stuffed is the place to go! Make sure to tell them that the Tangi Times Unknown Eater sent you.

Attention Tangi Times Subscribers Did you know...

Your Tangi Times subscription gives you full digital access to ALL THREE Tangi Times editions at no additional cost. Don't miss the exciting stories and features in the adventurous and imaginative Monday Mojo edition and the popular and provocative Weekend Warrior edition. Activate your online subscription at www.tangitimes.com today.

Public Notices

TPSS

NOTICE

DEADLINE: JULY 6, 2025

The Tangipahoa Parish School System (TPSS) is now accepting applications for the following:

POSITION: Maintenance Worker (12 Months)

(Multiple Positions) – Trades workers include: Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical, and Carpentry.

SALARY: $32,953 - $58,400

Based on verified years of relevant experience and additional certifications

LOCATION:Maintenance Department
Tangipahoa Parish School System
Amite, LA

CRITERIA: **High School Diploma or GED is required** This must be supplemented by either **experience in building trades and maintenance, or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience**

Valid Louisiana driver's license required.

All diplomas, certificates, credentials, and other supporting documentation **must be submitted** with the application.

Applications for this position will only be accepted through the Frontline Recruit and Hire website: www.applitrack.com/Tangischools/onlineapp. Paper applications and/or email scanned attachment(s) will not be accepted or processed for consideration.

Submit your application through the Frontline Recruit and Hire portal before the deadline of **July 6, 2025,** even if a previous paper application is on file with TPSS Human Resources. Previous paper or email applications will not be considered.

The Tangipahoa Parish School System is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disability.

DATE ADVERTISEMENT POSTED:
June 26, 2025

Publish: July 2 & 4 Cost of notice:$19.00

NOTICE

DEADLINE: July 9, 2025

The Tangipahoa Parish School System (TPSS) is now accepting applications for the following:

POSITION:OFFICE ASSISTANT (12 Months)

SALARY: $28,177 - $47,147 (Based on verified years of relevant experience)

LOCATION: Academics Department – Central Office Amite, LA

CRITERIA: High School Diploma or Equivalency Certificate, and must have one of the following:

At least two (2) years of experience in an office or human resources setting.

Successfully completed coursework leading to an Associate Degree in Office Administration, or Human Resources related area.

Successfully completed coursework at a State Approved Vocational School, Business School, or J.T.P.A. sponsored school in office management, human resources or related field.

A Bachelor's degree or higher will be accepted in lieu of the above requirements.

Updated diplomas, certificates, and other supporting documentation must be submitted with the application.

Applications for this position will only be accepted through the Frontline Recruit and Hire website: www.applitrack.com/Tangischools/onlineapp. Paper applications and/or email scanned attachment(s) will not be accepted or processed for consideration.

Submit your application through the Frontline Recruit and Hire portal before the deadline of **July 9, 2025,** even if a previous paper application is on file with TPSS Human Resources. Previous paper or email applications will not be considered.

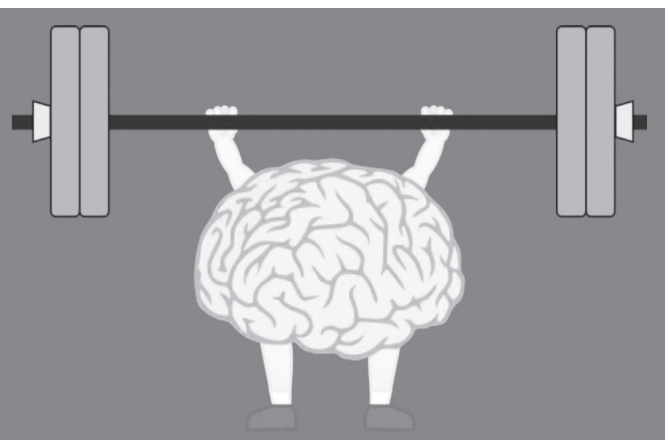
IMPORTANT: Please be advised that all applicants who apply for this position should check their email account daily, **including their SPAM folder,** for communications regarding this advertisement.

The Tangipahoa Parish School System is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disability.

DATE ADVERTISEMENT POSTED:
June 30, 2025

Publish: July 2, 4,7 & 9 Cost of notice:$23.50

Intelligence Corner



CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to swimming.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 1 = R)

A. 23 12 1 1 11 13 17
Clue: Movement of water

B. 21 25 9 16
Clue: Swimming length

C. 16 17 1 18 10 11
Clue: Method of swimming

D. 15 1 11 25 17 6
Clue: Air flow into lungs

Answers: A. current B. laps C. stroke D. breath

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to swimming.

SICKK

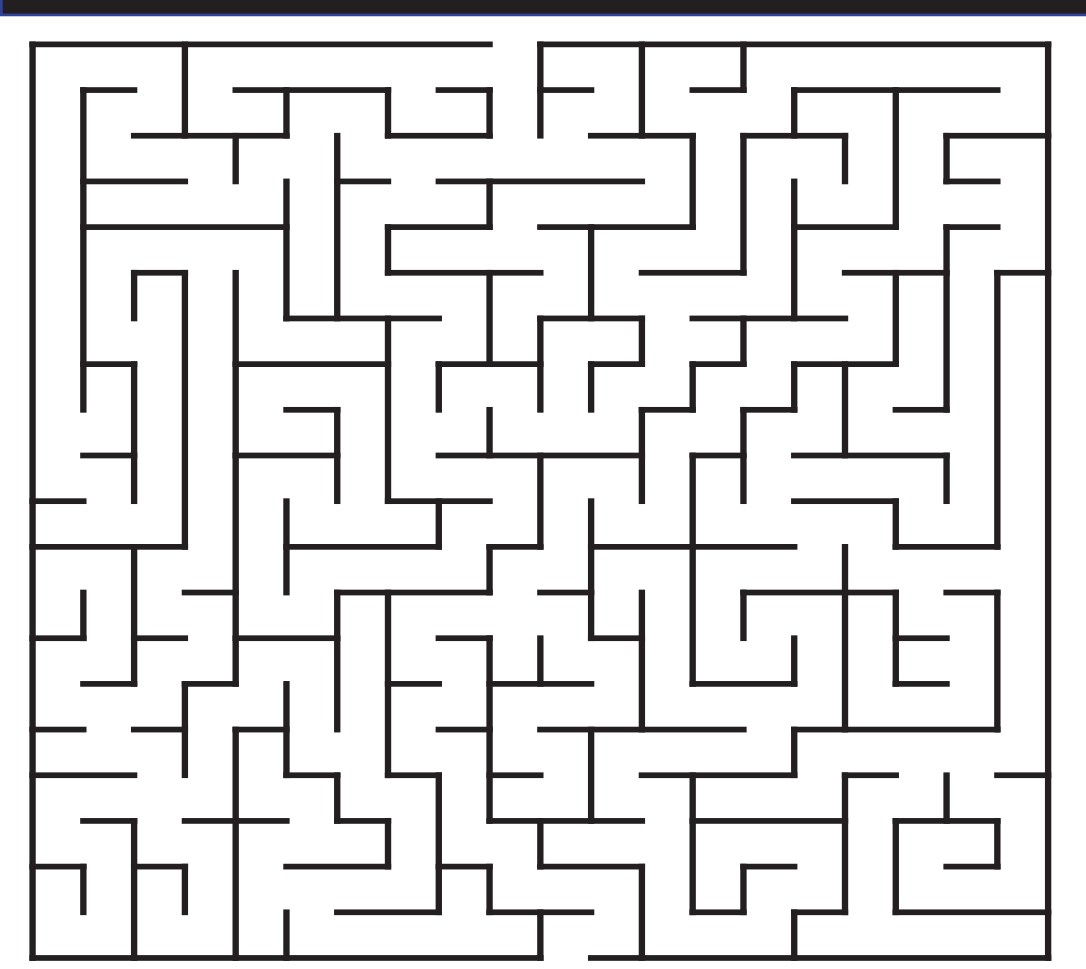
Answer: Kicks

The Tangi Times WISHES YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

FUN FACT

The first Saturday morning cartoon to use canned audience laughter was SCOOBY DOO.

Kids' Corner



ACROSS
1. Relaxing trip
5. Short portion of a ticket
6. Short journey
7. Filling a suitcase for a voyage

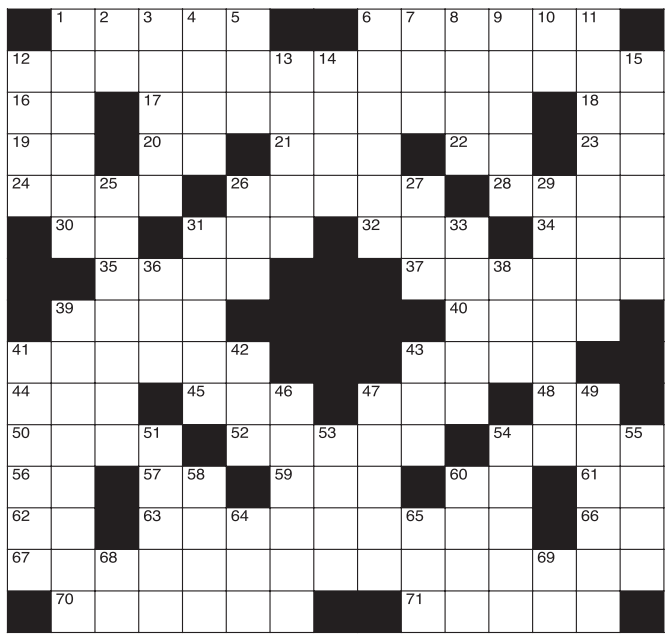
DOWN
DOWN
1. Different and diverse
2. The U.S. has a North and a South one
3. Jobs
4. Taking small bites of something

GUESS WHO?

I am an actress born in New York on July 2, 1986. I began my professional career as a Ford model at the age of 3. I rose to fame in a remake of a movie about twins separated shortly after birth, and later starred in a movie about unfriendly girls at school.

Answer: Lindsay Lohan

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Notes
6. Long-haired dog breed
12. ESPN's nickname
16. Spanish be
17. Disadvantage
18. Of I
19. Actor Pacino
20. On your way: __ route
21. Fifth note of a major scale
22. Companies need it
23. News agency
24. Faces of an organization
26. Ponds
28. Samoa's capital
30. Partner to "Pa"
31. Adult male
32. Cool!
34. Used of a number or amount not specified
35. No No No
37. Hosts film festival
39. British place to house convicts
40. Made of fermented honey and water
41. Chief
43. College army
44. Thyroid-stimulating hormone
45. Consume
47. One point north of due east
48. For instance
50. Brews
52. Alaskan river
54. Not soft
56. Atomic #22
57. "The Golden State"
59. "The world's most famous arena"
60. Larry and Curly's pal
61. One billion gigabytes
62. Conducts inspections
63. Malaria mosquitoes
66. Unit to measure width
67. Features
70. Affairs
71. Letter of Semitic abjads

CLUES DOWN

1. Follower of Islam
2. Trauma center
3. French young women
4. Norse god
5. U.S. commercial flyer (abbr.)
6. Merchant
7. Peyton's younger brother
8. Jungle planet in "Star Wars" galaxy
9. Tree-dwelling animal of C. and S. America
10. "Pollack" actor Harris
11. Stuck around
12. Put on
13. Influential Norwegian playwright
14. Christian __, designer
15. Fulfills a debt
25. Style
26. More (Spanish)
27. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
29. Remedy
31. Disturbance
33. "The Martian" actor Matt
36. Express delight
38. Brooklyn hoopster
39. 1900 lamp
41. Motionless
42. One's mother (Brit.)
43. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
46. Compels to act
47. Gardening tool
49. Ancient country
51. Frightening
53. Wimbledon champion Arthur
54. Popular plant
55. Database management system
58. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
60. Where soldiers eat
64. Tenth month (abbr.)
65. Illuminated
68. Atomic #18
69. Adults need one to travel

SUDOKU

3		6						7
			4		5			8
				6		4		
								1
		3	9				8	
9	6	1		4		2		
			1			9		
	8	4	7	9		5		
	9							2

WORD SEARCH

SWIM TEAM WORD SEARCH

E	B	M	O	B	T	W	D	N	L	O	V	B	P	I	M	K	R	N	I
N	E	U	I	Y	L	F	R	E	T	T	U	B	A	Y	S	M	S	K	O
G	C	D	B	A	C	K	S	T	R	O	K	E	M	K	W	G	D	A	N
P	N	P	E	I	O	P	E	C	A	P	K	K	D	O	I	Y	T	Y	S
U	A	I	A	C	F	A	L	G	T	A	V	D	M	O	M	L	M	N	F
F	T	L	I	Y	K	C	L	P	O	O	L	D	R	V	M	D	E	S	B
V	S	F	R	U	I	F	I	W	E	S	R	U	O	C	I	U	D	D	L
A	I	N	T	M	K	G	B	V	A	S	T	T	R	C	N	U	Y	V	D
A	D	I	F	D	R	I	L	L	R	D	U	S	R	U	G	L	D	A	F
K	W	N	F	R	B	N	M	K	I	C	E	A	L	A	P	L	W	L	G
F	C	M	Y	W	E	R	T	F	V	E	P	T	E	F	P	C	D	T	W
M	F	I	Y	N	T	E	K	O	R	T	S	T	S	A	E	R	B	E	L
W	U	P	K	S	T	G	S	W	B	W	F	K	T	S	N	G	F	A	D
S	T	K	U	Y	E	W	V	T	K	E	E	G	C	S	E	A	D	M	E
U	K	W	W	C	E	L	W	R	Y	T	N	W	N	G	U	E	N	L	E
O	R	A	B	A	F	A	G	K	C	L	M	A	F	I	M	S	D	D	U
Y	N	I	S	P	E	W	V	G	P	F	E	T	L	I	V	D	N	N	V
I	T	A	O	L	F	S	I	F	O	F	C	E	T	S	A	I	R	U	G
B	M	F	V	P	L	Y	W	S	U	G	U	I	F	P	Y	U	D	O	D
Y	D	F	P	Y	S	M	M	M	S	B	C	U	S	G	T	Y	A	F	T

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

BACKSTROKE
BREASTSTROKE
BUTTERFLY
CAP
COURSE
DECK
DISTANCE
DIVING
DRILL
FLIP
FLOAT
FREESTYLE
GOGGLES
KICK
LANE
LAP
PACE
PADDLE
POOL
SWIMMING
TEAM
TIMED
TURN
WADE

Keeping It Real in REAL ESTATE

with Stacey Levin, RAM Properties

It's Not My Fault

In all my years of real estate, if there's one thing I've never quite made peace with, it's not being in control of every single little thing. I mean, I'm a control freak, level 10 here. I want to know where every document is, what time every appointment starts, and exactly what each person is doing at all times in the transaction.

Is that too much to ask? Yes. Yes, it is.

Unfortunately, real estate doesn't work like that. There are so many moving parts involved in getting to the closing table, and I'm just one of them. Granted, I'd like to think I'm the most fabulous, hardworking, proactive piece of that puzzle... but still, I'm just a piece.

Don't get me wrong, having a great agent absolutely matters. A good agent lines up all the ducks. A great agent double-checks those ducks, puts bows on them, and makes sure they march in sync.

But sometimes, no matter how hard we try, we start the transaction with a few ducks missing. Or worse, a duck that turns out to be a goose with an attitude problem.

Owner/Broker of RAM Properties, Stacey Levin

And when something goes wrong? It's always the agent's fault. Of course it is. Who else is there to blame? The lender? The appraiser? The underwriter who's never met anyone in the transaction but somehow holds all the power.

Nope. The agent is at fault.

This week slapped me with that truth, not just once but twice.

I had two transactions riding on one buyer who had their own buyer's agent. And even though everything looked perfect, things started unraveling right at the finish line.

Y'all… I try to do everything in my power to shield my clients from the chaos behind the scenes, and there is always a bit of chaos. The bumps, the delays, the threats (don't judge), the crazy attitudes, the "I need this document from 2004 before I can approve the loan" nonsense.

I keep all that buried deep in the group chat of my soul. I want my clients to feel calm, confident, and cared for. Because let's be real, buying, selling, and moving is already stressful enough.

But this week? Things went sideways at the 11th hour.

Everything had been so smooth until then. My clients were singing my praises, and I was feeling all the warm fuzzies, until that moment when the buyer's loan hit a snag.

A delay. A government-backed, underwriter-fueled, can-we-please-have-another-document-from-seventeen-years-ago kind of delay.

And just like that, my sweet clients went from calling me amazing to... well, let's just say I don't think I made their prayer list this week.

Y'all, I lose sleep over stuff like this. Not because I did anything wrong, but because I love my clients. I care deeply. And when something happens that I can't control, it kills me a little inside.

The truth is, when I represent the seller, I have zero control over the buyer's lender, the underwriter, or the loan type. And when it's a government-backed loan (FHA, VA, RD, etc.), there's usually an extra layer of red tape and at least one surprise delay that comes out of nowhere.

Could I have told my sellers not to accept a government-backed loan in the first place? Sure. However, that might have meant their home stayed on the market longer, or they received a lower offer, and those are real risks too.

Every decision in real estate has a ripple effect. Our job as agents is not just unlocking doors and collecting checks (although I know some people think that's all we do).

No! Our job is strategy, protection, guidance, emotional support, negotiations, and sometimes minor miracle-working. I know I would be an awesome counselor!

So please, if you're buying or selling a home, give your agent a little grace. Know that we're doing more behind the scenes than you could ever imagine. Know that if we could control it all, we absolutely would. And know that even when things feel like they're falling apart, we are doing our very best to hold it all together for you.

And remember that we also have lives, families, and personal responsibilities in the mix as well.

And to God… if this week was supposed to be a lesson in trust and surrender... I get it, okay? Lesson received, loud and clear.

Please don't test me again next week. LOVE YOU.

Authenticity Is the Essence of Self

By KASIA PERKOWSKA
Tangi Times Feature Columnist

When thinking about authenticity, expensive works of art, antiques, clothing, and designer bags may come to mind, but people might not.

What does being authentic mean? According to Psychology Today, authenticity involves acting in accordance with one's true self and behaving consistently with one's values and personality. It includes awareness of our inner experience, and our motives, beliefs, values, and dispositions.

When interacting with peers or total strangers, some may wonder if they are being their authentic selves. Most of the time, when leaving the comfort and safety of our home, we tend to put on a mask to prevent anyone from having a peek at our emotional state, especially when going through something traumatic or upsetting.

We instinctively want to protect and hide what may be making us feel exposed. Allowing ourselves to be easily read by others can make us feel vulnerable when asked uncomfortable questions. Being an open book may not always benefit us, so many of us carry masks that we put on based on the situation.

We exchange pleasantries with people every day, asking them how they are, how their day is going, and how their family is doing, among other things. The typical answer is usually, "fine", and we each go on about our day.

But why do we always say we're fine when nothing is further from the truth for some of us? People struggle to admit to others, and most of all, to themselves, that they are struggling. So, we hide behind "happy" masks and post happy things on social media to make our lives appear wonderful when they are not.

The self we sit with late at night, when it's just us with our thoughts, may only be familiar to one person. Society has shaped and programmed us to be what others expect or want us to be, and when we don't meet those expectations, we feel like we've failed.

Humans are hard-wired to desire belonging, and this desire often causes us to conform to other people's expectations or norms. We conform because we reason that we have more to lose by being our authentic selves than we have to gain. The fear of others' opinions, acceptance, and validation may influence some to conceal their authentic self and become someone they are not comfortable being.

Recently, a friend of mine had surgery, and the question of receiving a blood transfusion in case of an emergency came up. She grew up in a religion where blood transfusions weren't allowed, and everyone of that faith was expected to reject them.

This young lady had left

(See AUTHENTICITY on Page 9)

The Tangi Times
Established 1981
U.S. Periodicals Postal Permit No. 666730
Postmaster, address correspondence,
and change of address orders to:
PO Box 743, Ponchatoula, LA 70454

Bobby Perez – Publisher, Editor in Chief
Ryley Perez – Assistant Chief Editor,
Marketing & Multimedia Director
Amanda Long – Business Manager
Mary Haley – Design Master
Stefanie Brooke – Staff Journalist
Kasia Perkowska – Feature Columnist
Margarita Freepour – Fallacious Advice Columnist
Executive Producer, Video – Tommy Hazlewood
Sports Editor – Tommy Hazlewood
Sports Journalists: Pablo Crewes, Joel Ray,
Ethan Peltier, Dwight Williams, Jr., Wes Younger,
Matt Greer, Adam Saragusa
Content Contributors: Phillip Colwart, Jim Perrin,
Ms. Faith, Charley King, Matt Greer
Culinary Reviews by The Unknown Eater
Community Editorial by Old Hardhide, the Alligator
Technical Writers: Stacey Levin, Tonya Aiken
Meteorology Character Creation: Paul Perez

OFFICIAL JOURNAL
City of Ponchatoula
Town of Kentwood
Tangipahoa Parish Rural Fire Protection District 1

PRESS MEMBERSHIPS
Louisiana Press Association
HONORS & AWARDS
Louisiana Press Association Freedom of Information Award, 1st Place – Investigative Reporting, 1st Place – Editorial Writing, Gibbs Adams Award for Investigative Reporting, Brown Pelican Award for Environmental Reporting, Best Front Page, Best Sports Column, Best Regular Column
SUBSCRIPTIONS
$50/year, 52 issues, delivered locally via USPS
Print editions published every
Wednesday and Saturday at
PO Box 743, Ponchatoula, LA 70454

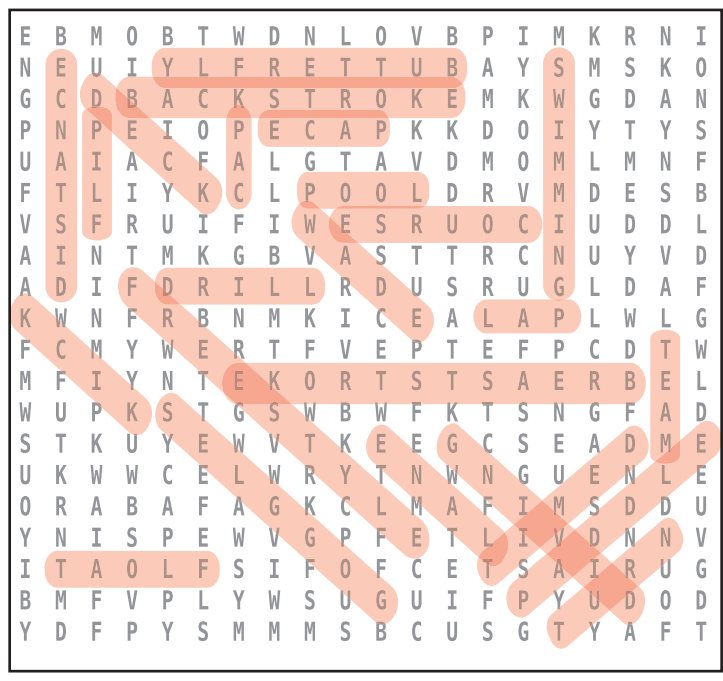
CONTACT INFORMATION
PO Box 743 • Ponchatoula, LA 70454
publisher@tangitimes.com
985.467.0096

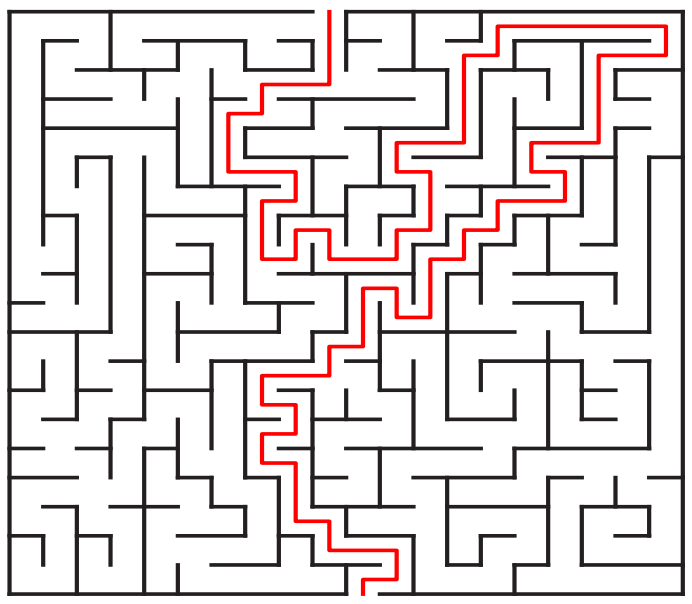
DEMAND EXCELLENCE
YOUR VEHICLE DESERVES IT.
TOPCOAT
Paint -&- Body
MINOR COLLISION • CUSTOM
109 Tower Drive, Suite B • Hammond, LA
225-978-9170

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

The Tangi Times
WISHES YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

■	M	E	M	O	S	■	■	S	E	T	T	E	R
W	O	R	L	D	W	I	D	E	L	E	A	D	E
E	S	■	L	I	A	B	I	L	I	T	Y	■	M
A	L	■	E	N	■	S	O	L	■	H	R	■	A
R	E	P	S	■	M	E	R	E	S	■	A	P	I
■	M	A	■	M	A	N	■	R	A	D	■	A	N
■	■	N	O	E	S	■	■	■	C	A	N	N	E
■	G	A	O	L	■	■	■	■	M	E	A	D	■
S	A	C	H	E	M	■	■	■	R	O	T	C	■
T	S	H	■	E	A	T	■	E	B	N	■	E	G
A	L	E	S	■	M	E	A	D	E	■	H	A	R
T	I	■	C	A	■	M	S	G	■	M	O	■	E
I	G	■	A	N	O	P	H	E	L	E	S	■	E
C	H	A	R	A	C	T	E	R	I	S	T	I	C
■	T	R	Y	S	T	S	■	■	T	S	A	D	E





3	4	6	2	8	9	1	5	7
2	1	9	4	7	5	3	6	8
8	5	7	3	6	1	4	2	9
4	7	8	5	2	3	6	9	1
5	2	3	9	1	6	7	8	4
9	6	1	8	4	7	2	3	5
7	3	2	1	5	8	9	4	6
6	8	4	7	9	2	5	1	3
1	9	5	6	3	4	8	7	2

KIDS CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1. Vacation
5. Stub
6. Trip
7. Packing

DOWN
1. Variety
2. Carolina
3. Tasks
4. Nibbling

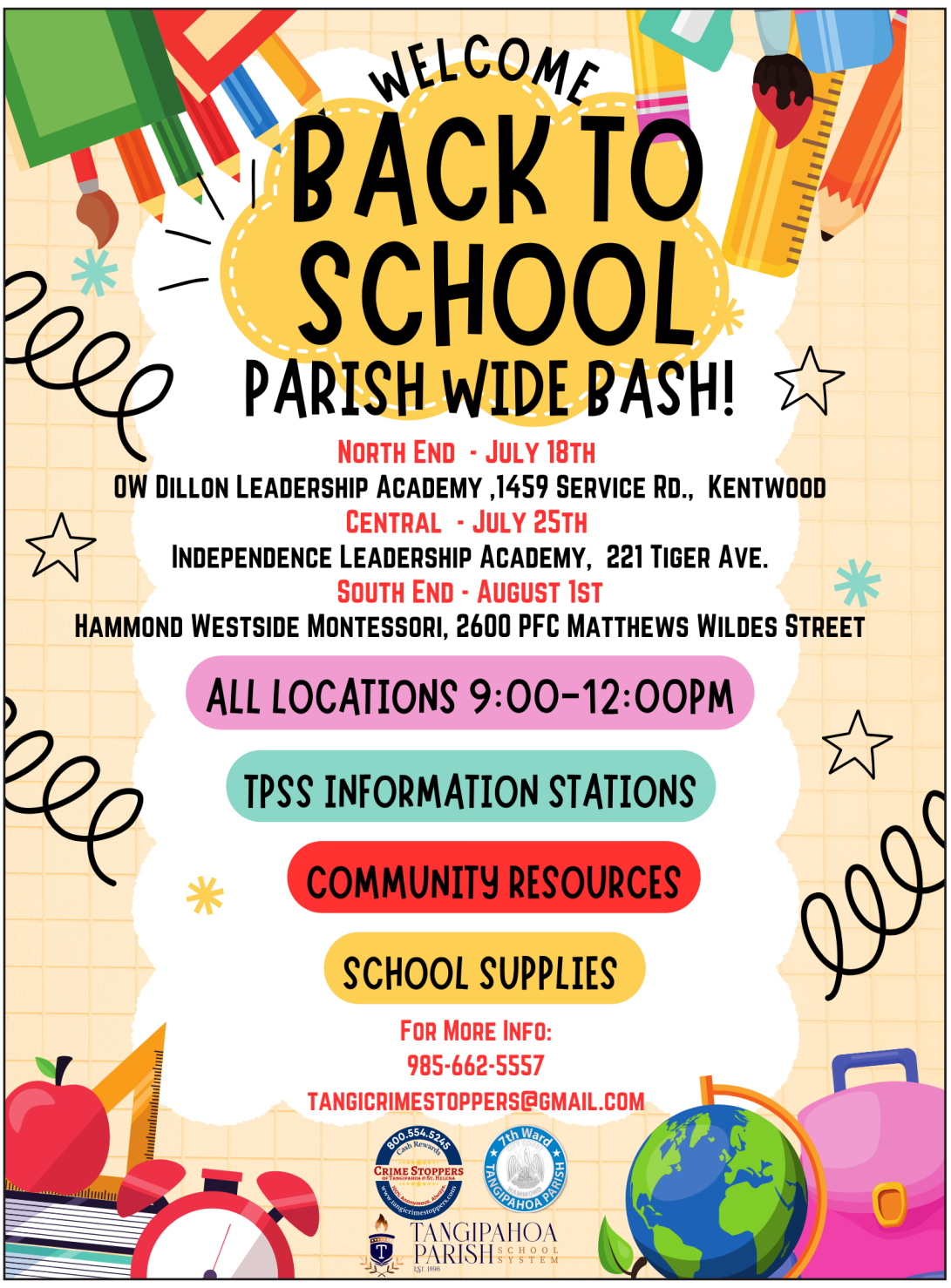
The Tangi Times Sports Lounge

Tommy Hazlewood
Sports Editor

Joel Ray
Sportswriter

Dwight Williams Jr.
Sportswriter

Ethan Peltier
Sports Reporter



Tulane Has 11 Phil Steele 2025 Preseason All-American Athletic Conference (AAC) Selections

By JOEL RAY
Tangi Times Sportswriter

The Tulane football team had a conference-best 11 selections to Phil Steele's 2025 Preseason All-AAC team.

The Green Wave's 11 selections were one better than four other schools in the American Athletic Conference.

Shadre Hurst, Derrick Graham, Santana Hopper, Sam Howard, and Mo Westmoreland were all First Team selections.

Hurst, a redshirt junior guard, played in all 14 games with 13 starts last season, where he helped Tulane's offense rank among the top five in the conference in seven categories. The offense scored 20+ points in 11 of the team's 14 games.

Last year Hurst was a First Team All-AAC selection by the conference's coaches and a First Team All-AAC choice by Phil Steele.

Graham, a redshirt senior offensive tackle, started all 14 games last season at left tackle. He was also a First Team All-AAC selection last year.

Hopper, a redshirt junior defensive tackle, is in his first year at Tulane after transferring from Appalachian State. Last season, as a member of the Mountaineers, he totaled 36 tackles, 8.5 stops for loss, and five sacks.

Howard, a senior linebacker, started 13 games last season. He set a school record with five fumble recoveries while totaling 63 tackles, 5.5 tackles for loss, 2.5 sacks, and an interception. Last year he was a Second Team All-AAC selection.

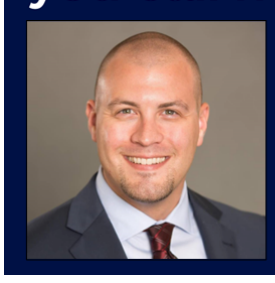
Westmoreland, a redshirt senior linebacker, is in his first year at Tulane after transferring from UTEP. Last season, as a member of the Miners, he ranked 23rd in the nation with eight sacks plus 46 tackles and 9.5 stops for loss.

Kameron Hamilton and Omar Hayes were Second Team selections.

Jack Hollifield and Bailey Despanie were Third Team selections.

Anthony Miller, along with Omar Hayes, were Fourth Team selections. Hayes was also a Second Team selection at a different position. Hayes is a wide receiver and a punt returner.

Tangi Times sportswriter Joel Ray is a member of the Louisiana Sports Writers Association.

coverage for wherever you call home

Colby McCurdy
985-386-3538
760 W Pine St • Ponchatoula
Allstate.

Powell Title & Notary
NOTARY
VEHICLE REGISTRATION
TITLE TRANSFERS
LICENSE PLATES
555 S MORRISON BLVD
HAMMOND, LA 70403
985-345-8787

FOLLOW THE TANGI TIMES ON X
x.com/TangiTimes

Subscribe to
The Tangi Times
for only $50* per year!

Your $50 annual subscription to the Tangi Times includes one paper edition delivered to your home address via USPS mail, as well as digital access to ALL THREE editions anytime. You can choose your paper edition from our classic mid-week edition on Wednesdays, the popular and provocative Weekend Warrior on Fridays, and the new and exciting Monday Mojo.

Subscribe today at www.tangitimes.com.

*$50 per paper edition subscription price applies to delivery in Tangipahoa, St. Helena, and eastern Livingston Parishes. Subscription rate for all other areas is $100 per year, per edition. Call 985-467-0096 or email publisher@tangitimes.com with any questions.

AUTHENTICITY

Continued from Page 7

the church six years prior, so I fully expected her to agree to the transfusion should the need arise. She said no, but only because her mother was there, having flown in the day before to help after the surgery.

We've discussed the surgery at length, as it's something I have had, and when the topic of blood came up, she matter-of-factly said, Of course, she would accept it. She didn't realize that saying yes to a transfusion meant having a red wristband placed on her wrist identifying her blood type. Since her mother would see the band and there was no way to hide it, she declined the transfusion.

The doctor asked if she was refusing blood because she fully believed in the religion she grew up in, or because her mother was there. We all knew the answer. Choosing to risk her life out of fear of what someone else may think, she put her authentic self and feelings on the back burner.

She later felt awful for not being authentic to herself, especially in front of others.

Some may be quick to judge, declaring that she should have set boundaries or not cared about what her mother thought. However, it's not always easy to stand up for ourselves when others are around, out of fear of what they may think, and most of all, out of the fear of losing them.

It's very easy for others to point out and eagerly share what they would have said or done in a given situation, but unless we have faced that situation, we can't honestly say what we would have done.

I remember many such situations when I was young, inexperienced, and naive. It was very easy for me to state what I would do if A, B, or C were to happen. In my mind, I always had the most logical solution and considered myself prepared.

It wasn't until I was actually faced with situations A, B, and C that I realized my old "solution" to the issue would have been wonderful only in a make-believe world. Years later, I sheepishly admitted to myself that I was wrong. I judged.

Truly authentic individuals know what's important and remain true to these values in the face of external pressures and expectations to think and behave a certain way. When we come from an authentic place in our hearts, we are less likely to let external pressures alter who we truly are. This includes how we express ourselves, connect with others, and spend our time.

Being authentic means not having to put on a mask to please others in relationships or friendships. Putting on a false persona is only doing ourselves a disservice, as the people we are trying to please aren't getting to know the real us, but the version we choose to present to them.

One of the most difficult things for many of us is speaking our minds, especially when our own opinions differ from the most popular ones.

When our thoughts and actions are truly aligned, we set ourselves free from the mental prisons we create when we work against our true selves to please others.

With authenticity comes a feeling of true freedom. Once we stop caring about what others think, we can reach our fullest potential!

St. Helena Council on Aging Welcomes Two New Board Members

Courtesy photo

At their annual meeting, the St. Helena Council on Aging welcomed two new members to their Board of Directors. Pictured with President De'Shon E. Muse (left) and Executive Director Shelia H. Creighton (right) is new board member Madeline Hall. Not pictured is new board member James Baker.

Hammond/Ponchatoula Sunrise Rotary Club Flag Raising Ceremony

The Hammond/Ponchatoula Sunrise Rotary Club invites the community to join them for their 10th Annual July 4 Flag Raising at Hammond Square Mall. The ceremony will begin at 9:00 am on Friday, July 4. The event will occur at the large flagpole by the Olive Garden.

Courtesy photo

The ceremony will begin with the opening prayer by Rev. Liz Embler-Beazley from Grace Memorial Episcopal Church; the National Anthem with MaryClaire Hoover; the Pledge of Allegiance led by Boy Scout Troop 270 and Pack 170; comments from Hammond Mayor Pete Panepinto and Parish President Robby Miller; patriotic readings by students from Courtney Christian Academy; and the Flag Raising with the Hammond Fire Department, Police Department, and Rotary Members.

SPOILED

FROM PAGE 1

them in a large container or zip-top bag with just a bit of airflow.

The paper towel will absorb excess moisture and help keep things crisp instead of tragic. Bonus tip: avoid

storing lettuce in the fridge's coldest zones, where it's more likely to freeze and turn brown.

Living in Louisiana means dealing with heat, humidity, and an abundance of delicious ingredients. With just a

little extra care and a few good storage habits, you can keep your fridge fresher and your wallet a bit fuller.

So before your produce turns into a science experiment, give these tricks a try. Your food will thank you –

probably in the form of not smelling weird next time you open the fridge.

Hammond Kiwanis Supports Back to School Bash

Photo courtesy of City Court

Judy Couvillion of the Hammond Kiwanis Club presents a check to City Court Judge C. Britain Sledge and Hammond Mayor Pete Panepinto to support the 2025 Back to School Bash. Each year, City Court partners with the City of Hammond to provide free backpacks and school supplies for students in Pre-K to 8th Grade. This year's event will be held on Friday, August 1, from 9am until noon at Hammond Westside Montessori School.

HANDY

FROM PAGE 1

Plus, let's be honest: there's something downright lovable about mixing up your own potions in the kitchen like a happy, good-smelling wizard. You can even rope your family into it, turning it into a weekend project where you all leave smelling like eucalyptus and accomplishment.

So the next time you're about to fork over $15 for lemon-scented glass cleaner, just remember: you might already have everything you need to whip up a batch at home. Saving money never smelled so sweet – or felt so satisfying.

Safety Tip of the Day

Coffee Shop Safety Tip

Scenario

You're sitting in a coffee shop, and some creepy guy comes to your table and asks, " What's a girl like you doing here all alone?""

Your response

I'm waiting on my boyfriend, he'll be here any second, or - actually not alone, my boyfirend works here, or- I'm just leaving, my dad and two brothers are picking me up

If you see something, say something.

800-554-5245 • P3 APP • tangicrimestoppers.com

This public service message is brought to you by

The Tangi Times

Everyone's Favorite Newspaper!

800.554.5245 Cash Rewards CRIME STOPPERS OF TANGIPAHOA & ST. HELENA 100% Anonymous. Always. www.tangicrimestoppers.com

LN Hughes FUNERAL SERVICES

LISA N HUGHES, CFSP, CPC, CCSP

Owner · Funeral Director

21400 S I-12 SERVICE RD · PONCHATOULA

LNHUGHES.COM · 985-277-1003

Dedicated to making a difficult time easier

Need a Notary?

BETTER CALL PAULA!

PAULA REED YOUNG

Civil Law Notary Public

•Fast •Friendly •Affordable

Security Agreements • Mortgage/Loan Documents • Acts of Sale/Donation • Bonds for Deed • Acts of Adoption • Guarantee Letters • Powers of Attorney • Affidavits • Small Successions • Wills • Trusts • Real Estate Transfers • Partitions of Property • Incorporation • LLCs • Partnership Agreements • Matrimonial Agreements • Public Inventories • Contracts • *and much more!*

PAULA REED YOUNG · STATE OF LOUISIANA · UNION · JUSTICE · CONFIDENCE · NOTARY PUBLIC · TANGIPAHOA PARISH

985-345-7890 office

985-634-4825 mobile

1445 S. Morrison Blvd. • Hammond, LA 70403

Powell & Associates Insurance, LLC

Personal • Commercial

Life • Health • Auto

Flood • Workers Comp

and many more

Ponchatoula

985-386-8542

Hammond

985-542-0008

www.powellins.net

GERTRUDE'S GARDEN

JULY 14, 2025 | 6PM

PONCHATOULA LIBRARY BRANCH

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Welcome

Tangipahoa Parish LIBRARY

KEVIN BROWN

Special Guest

AUTHOR, ARTIST, SPEAKER, AND COMMUNITY ADVOCATE

The garden is a communal green space located in the Historic Burglund District of McComb, MS

- Gertrude's Garden was founded in 2019 in McComb, MS, which won the 2024 1st place Civic Organization by Keep Mississippi Beautiful.

Join the Minutemen of Ponchatoula

To all my friends who enjoy seeing the flag fly continuously over our Ponchatoula:

The 'Minutemen of Ponchatoula' is a not-for-profit organization created solely to keep the flag flying over our City of Ponchatoula. Our membership dues are only $25.00 per year and are used solely to purchase flags. We go through about 4 per year due to wear and tear from high winds and storms.

Our 177-foot-tall flagpole was a BellSouth communication tower. In 1985, the Jaycees took on the project of moving the pole across the tracks and across Pine Street to its current home today.

Every year on the 4th of July, the community comes together to our annual flag raising ceremony, hoisting up the big 70x40-foot flag, which was hand-sewn by locals known as the 'Betsy Ross Ladies.' Last year, we had nearly 80 participants, each of whom had to lend a hand to handle the enormous 2800-square foot foot flag. It was a wonderful morning and spectacular sight.

The purpose of this message is to ask you to become a member if you are not already one. We do not have socials, no dances, no crawfish boils, and no fundraisers. We just collect dues to keep our flag flying over our proud city.

Our president, Ronnie Perrin, is in charge of keeping a supply of flags so we will always have one flying.

As the secretary/ treasurer, I am asking you to send a $25.00 check payable to 'Minutemen of Ponchatoula' to me at my address listed below. Please do it now before LIFE gets in the way. Dues are due each July 4th and are totally voluntary but much needed.

Minutemen of Ponchatoula
c/o Ricky Howes
280 N. 8th Street
Ponchatoula, LA 70454

Please do it today and support our city in welcoming all our visitors with our grand Old Glory.

Sincerely,

Ricky

OPTIONS Hosts Be the Key Celebration to Honor Community Supporters

Pictured left to right: Casey Rudolph, OPTIONS Development Director; Tammy Victoriano, HUB International Benefits Consultant; and Carrie Mercke, OPTIONS President/CEO.

OPTIONS proudly hosted its annual Be the Key Celebration at The Mezzanine in Hammond, honoring the exceptional individuals and organizations that have played a pivotal role in supporting its mission. The event served as a heartfelt thank-you to members of the Be the Key Society, Key Ambassadors, Legacy Society, grantors, and sponsors whose contributions have fueled the ongoing success of the Be the Key Breakfast, held each spring.

During the celebration, OPTIONS formally recognized the 2025 Be the Key Breakfast sponsors for their steadfast commitment and generous advocacy. Honorees included this year's presenting sponsor the Oscar J. Tolmas Charitable Trust, Robin R. Roberts, HUB International, Niagara Bottling, and Regions Bank.

For more information about OPTIONS and how to get involved or support the mission, please visit www.options4u.org or call 985-345-6269.

OPTIONS is a local non-profit 501c3 agency whose mission is to help people with disabilities live and work in the community. OPTIONS has been providing quality services to people with disabilities in the Florida Parishes for over fifty years. For more information call (985) 345-6269 or visit www.Options4u.org.

A Birthday Gift to You from The Tangi Times

To celebrate the TEN summer birthdays of TEN Tangi Times staff members and writers, we are giving you TEN free summer weeks of digital access to the Tangi Times, now through August 30!

Visit www.tangitimes.com and click SUBSCRIBE at the top. Then, at the left of the screen, look for "Existing Print Subscriber" and click REGISTER. Follow the prompts to set up your free digital subscription.

LIKE and FOLLOW The Tangi Times for breaking news, story updates, and exciting videos

The Tangi Times Music Notes

Feature Shows

Streetside Market Hammond

Thursday, 7/03 @ 6pm

GRACIE MARIE

NATALBANY CREEK CAMPGROUND
CABINS AND RV PARK
A Streamside Park

FOURTH of JULY

7-4-25

KARAOKE AT 2:00PM

FIRE WORKS SHOW AT 9:45PM

GRACIE MARIE
6:30PM TO 9:30PM
with special guest
ANDREW AUTIN

30218 HWY 16W AMITE LA, 70422
985-748-4311
WWW. natalbanycreekcampgroung.net

Free to the public

Schedules are Subject to Change